

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln No. : 10/729,230  
Applicant(s): Masayuki USHIKU et al.  
Filed : December 4, 2003  
For : INK-JET RECORDING SHEET  
Art Unit : 1774  
Examiner : Pamela R. Schwartz  
Docket No. : 03723/HG  
Confirm. No.: 9225  
- Customer No.: 01933

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Masayuki Ushiku, declares that I am a co-inventor of the invention described and claimed in the above-referenced application.

I was graduated from Aoyama Gakuin University in March 1992, with a Master's Degree in Chemistry. Since April 1992, I have been employed by Konica Corporation, now Konica Minolta IJ Corporation, the assignee of the present application. I have been engaged in research and development of photographic materials and Inkjet medias.

The Examiner requests more detailed description for the experimental results submitted in my earlier DECLARATION executed May 20, 2005.

In view of the Examiner's request, the following further information is provided below.

(1) Property of Support

As described in the DECLARATION, Example 1 was followed except as described at paragraph [0219] for sheets 21-39. In fact, all of the Recording sheets Nos. 25, 28, 35, 52 and 54 use a polyethylene coated support as is described in Example 1 (paragraph [0155]) of Katoh.

The Recording sheets described in the present specification were prepared using a polyethylene coated support.

Both Katoh and the present specification describe the use of a resin coated support.

(2) Ink

The Examiner requests information on the ink used for the comparison testing.

The images were formed with an ink-jet printer PM-800 manufactured by Epson Corp. A set of ink-jet inks provided for PM-800 by Epson Corp. was employed in the experiments (cf present specification end of page 37 to top of page 38).

Additional Discussion

The Examiner takes the position that Ashida discloses both fumed silica and silica prepared by wet processes. Wet silica is not excluded from the disclosure of Ashida.

However, one of the specific feature of the present claim is that the silica particles are prepared by a precipitation method or a gelling method.

Even if Ashida suggests to use fumed silica and wet silica, Ashida does not select wet silica. On the contrary, Ashida selects fumed silica which is not appropriate in the presently claimed invention.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: November 16, 2005

Masayuki Ushiku  
Masayuki Ushiku